

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

MINUTES OF INFORMAL REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 5, 1970, 189 W. MADISON ST., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Mr. Lawton was absent on business.

Mr. Lamendella, representing the complainants in the Facktor, Winston, and Brown proceedings against the North Shore Sanitary District, #70-12, 13 and 14, argued against the Sanitary District's motion to dismiss those cases on the grounds that they were duplicitous or frivolous. The complaints, he said, alleged significant violations of the Act and regulations and, he said, suits in court did not render proceedings before the Board duplicitous, especially when the relation between them was only collateral.

Mr. William Ackermann of the State Water Survey explained the operations of his organization for the benefit of the Board. The Water Survey, he said, had taken chemical samples of water quality for many years and has published reports of water quality data. Mr. Aldrich criticized the Survey's policy of changing sampling sites every five years on the ground that it destroys continuity and interfered with meaningful comparisons over time. Mr. Ackermann responded that sampling at the same site for a long time yielded diminishing returns but that some Water Survey data permitted comparisons on as long a term as 75 years. The Survey, he said, had published a report on surface water temperatures and was working on a comparable report regarding ground water. The Survey, however, does not measure biological water quality.

Mr. Ackermann presented the Board with a copy of a Survey study of the assimilative capacity of a pool in the Illinois River which shows that dissolved oxygen cannot be raised to the levels required by existing water quality standards by secondary treatment alone. He added that the Survey had compiled extensive data on the water quality of the Fox River and would be happy to present such data at our Elgin meeting on the 10th of November. The Survey, he said, was doing extensive meteorological work to determine among other things the effects of urban areas on precipitation. He said that Water Survey personnel could determine the weather effects of cooling towers, but that they had not prepared such information. He agreed to make a presentation on this subject at the November 5 and 6 thermal pollution hearings. He also agreed to suggest changes in the existing water quality standards and to appear at the phosphate hearing in order to help the Board evaluate the proposed three parts per million effluent limitation. He added that no mercury had been found in recent testing at Peoria. ✓

He noted in regard to the Fox River that it might be necessary to ban the use of septic tanks, many of which in that area were actually beneath the water table.

Mr. Ackermann concluded with a request that the Board utilize the Water Survey as a consultant to dig up and to supply specific information in response to questions propounded by the Board.

Representatives from several Universities in the Chicago area next appeared at the invitation of the Board to discuss ways in which students could help to satisfy the research needs of the Board. Mr. Kissel and Mr. Dumelle explained that what was desired was not basic research but state of the art papers based on library research, letter writing and interviewing to make known to the Board what was known to scientists in the field. Mr. Hadley of Chicago Circle Campus of the University of Illinois argued that such papers would produce little of value because too little was known and basic research was the real need. The Board Members, however, agreed with Mr. Aldrich that the Board was required to do the best it could on the basis of limited knowledge and could not afford to wait for basic research to be completed. Mr. Kissel asked that the University representatives notify the Board if they thought they had students who could help and that the Board would then suggest topics on which it desired guidance.


Messrs. Gillmor and Gehr on behalf of Commonwealth Edison Co. informed the Board that they had just filed an application for a nuclear facilities permit under Title VI-A of the Environmental Protection Act with the Board to permit the operation of the Dresden #3 unit. The Sanitary Water Board, they said, had issued both construction and operation permits for this unit. They urged the Board to proceed expeditiously on this matter as considerable time was needed for testing this facility and as the additional power generating capacity was urgently needed by next summer. They asked that a pre-hearing conference be scheduled to explore what would be expected at the hearing. Mr. Dumelle cautioned the Board not to permit a pre-hearing conference to resolve important substantive questions in the absence of the public. Mr. Kissel was appointed hearing officer.

Mr. Aldrich reported that he had arranged for the Board to meet November 24 in Decatur at the Meyer Zone Center Auditorium to discuss pesticides and said he would follow this up with preparations for meetings at Eastern and Western Illinois Universities at Charleston and Macomb.

The Board agreed to pass on October 8 on the motions to dismiss in the North Shore Sanitary District cases, on the exemption repeals, and on the proposed procedural rules. Mr. Currie reported on the federal-state Lake Michigan pollution conference. The Board then agreed that Mr. Currie should write to NAPCA to say that it was improper to exclude Clark County, Missouri from the proposed Burlington-Keokuk Air Quality Region on the basis of Missouri's request for state-wide designation. While state-wide designation might be administratively inconvenient, it was contrary to the policy of creating interstate regions to deal with pollution problems that cross state lines.

By a vote of 3-0 (Mr. Dumelle having stepped out) the Board approved an internal procedure proposed by Mr. Kissel for the deliberation and decision of adjudicative cases.

I, Regina E. Ryan, certify that the Board has approved the above minutes this 9 day of October, 1970.

  
Regina E. Ryan  
Clerk of the Board